

Section One:

Narrative & Budgets/Costs

State of Rhode Island
S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women
Program Budget

Program Group	Federal	State/ Local	Total
Prosecution	\$223,897	\$	\$
Health Department	\$ 0	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000
Law Enforcement	\$223,897	\$	\$
Administration	\$67,410	\$ 0	\$
Victim Services	\$403,015	\$ 0	\$
Court Funds	\$44,781	\$10,000	\$54,781
TOTAL	\$963,000	\$	\$

State of Rhode Island

STOP Violence Against Women Plan

FY-2003

Introduction

As part of Rhode Island's preparation for the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act, a broad-based committee was established in January, 1995 to ensure the development of a comprehensive, statewide plan to reduce the incidence of crimes of violence against women and improve services to victims. Input and active participation in the planning process was coordinated by the Attorney General's Task Force on Domestic Violence and the Finance Committee of the Rhode Island House of Representatives. Committee members included delegates from the Rhode Island Department of the Attorney General, State Court Administration, Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit, Department of Health, State Police, municipal police, Department of Corrections, Rhode Island Justice Commission, Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center (SATRC), the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence and its six battered women's shelters. In May 1995, Governor Lincoln Almond named the Rhode Island Justice Commission (RIJC) as the state administrative agency for the Violence Against Women Act. Kristen Martineau of the RIJC is chair of the Violence Against Women Act Planning Committee. The committee's focus now is on planning, administration, monitoring, and evaluation of VAWA-funded programs.

Concurrently, many of these same agencies and individuals were involved in working with the Rhode Island Department of Health on a statewide needs assessment and data collection project focusing on prevention of violence against women. The proposal was one of three state applications throughout the nation to receive funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for a five-year violence against women prevention project. The Violence Against Women Act Planning Committee ensures that VAWA efforts complement and strengthen the Health Department's project to build an integrated statewide system to protect women from abuse.

In year one, the Rhode Island Violence Against Women Act Planning Committee dedicated a considerable amount of time and effort to the development and implementation of a comprehensive plan designed to respond to the needs and concerns of women who have been, or potentially will be, victimized by violence. By bringing together an array of victim assistance professionals from the outset, the State of Rhode Island demonstrated its commitment to a coordinated and integrated approach, enhanced by the unique perspectives and demonstrated expertise of law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, and victim advocates. For example, Rhode Island's domestic violence and sexual assault programs conducted a needs assessment within their areas of expertise to bring priority needs to the committee for discussion; and input from the boards of directors, staff, volunteers and survivors of sexual and domestic violence was utilized in the creation of the plan. In addition, the proposed plan was endorsed by the Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association.

Our state's small size and impressive history of statewide, multi-disciplinary collaboration makes

Rhode Island a unique setting for the implementation of model programs to end violence against women. In 1987, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court convened a statewide task force on domestic violence to review state laws and recommend changes. Based on the recommendations of this task force, Rhode Island became one of the first states in the country to enact a comprehensive domestic violence statute. That committee continues to meet to review the laws and to recommend changes. In addition, the Attorney General convened a task force on domestic violence in 1993, to address issues of concern to representatives of the criminal justice system. With a population of one million residents and the distance from north to south of just sixty miles, Rhode Island is an excellent laboratory for the development of comprehensive, innovative approaches to solving community problems. The first year plan included both urban and rural areas, and responds to the changing needs of a diverse population. The size, geography and history of collaboration in the state has been and will continue to be, a tremendous asset as we continue to implement this plan to prevent violence against women in Rhode Island, while ensuring the most efficient use of resources.

Extent of the Problem in Rhode Island

Statewide Collaboration and Planning

In 1993, staff from the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the SATRC began meeting with representatives from the Rhode Island Department of Health to develop a proposal to submit to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Violence Against Women Initiative. Rhode Island was one of three states to be awarded a five-year Violence Against Women Prevention grant. The Coalition and the SATRC played an active role in the preliminary stages of planning for this program and continue to do so now that programs under this grant are being implemented. One of the first objectives of the grant was to conduct a comprehensive statewide needs assessment to determine the strengths and weaknesses of the services and systems currently available to victims of abuse. The result of this assessment is the basis for the plan for service delivery and systems change in Rhode Island.

In addition, the Coalition and the SATRC continue to meet with representatives from state government, elected officials and community organizations to assess how funds from the Violence Against Women Act can better meet the needs of the state's victims. The original committee, convened by the Finance Committee of the Rhode Island House of Representatives in 1995, was expanded to include VAWA subgrantees. At the advice of the RI Ethics Commission, the Planning Committee was revised last year to include a more balanced representation from each program area. Formal voting and recusal policies were implemented. The committee meets regularly to discuss how the VAWA funds are currently being used and to develop plans for subsequent years' funding. The original FY-95 plan was developed with valuable input from victim service providers, victims, volunteers, law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, Corrections, the Health Department, and the Rhode Island Justice Commission.

The Rhode Island Justice Commission contracted with BOTECH Analysis Corporation in Cambridge,

MA to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the STOP Formula grant program. Staff at the RIJC have worked closely with the evaluators to provide resources and information. In April 2000, a full-day session was held to discuss the progress of the evaluation. Participants included many direct STOP grant recipients.

The RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence collaborates with both national and local domestic violence programs. Nationally, they participate as an active member of the National Network to End Domestic Violence and the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The SATRC is a member of the National Coalition Against Sexual Abuse and the National Network of Children's Advocacy Centers.

The RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the SATRC both have recognized track records of successfully administering and implementing effective programs for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. These organizations and their membership are recognized as distinguished leaders in the state on the issue of violence against women.

What follows is Rhode Island's plan for the eighth year Violence Against Women Act funding, divided into the four required sections: prosecution, law enforcement, courts and victim services as well as a fifth area for discretionary funds.

PROSECUTION

Current System:

The prosecution of domestic violence misdemeanor cases in District Court are handled by each of the Rhode Island's city and town solicitors, with the exception of cases charged by the Rhode Island State Police and cases which are referred to the Department of the Attorney General by a solicitor due to a conflict with the city or town or for other valid reason. Sexual assault and other felony domestic violence cases are prosecuted in the Superior Court by the Attorney General. Before VAWA funding, there was neither a specially trained or centralized unit nor protocol for Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault cases. Domestic violence training for city and town solicitors as well as attorney generals was virtually non-existent.

Since 1995, with VAWA funding, the Attorney General's Office has established a new internal structure and protocol for handling domestic violence and sexual assault cases and has initiated and participated in statewide training for law enforcement and prosecutors. Since 1995, there has been established a specialized Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Unit to handle felony domestic violence cases within Providence County as well as misdemeanor cases and out of County domestic violence and sexual assault cases referred to the Providence County office. The Unit is currently staffed with three prosecuting attorneys, each with specialized training in the prosecution of domestic violence and sexual assault cases, a paralegal, and a victim/witness prosecution liaison with years of experience as a domestic violence victim's court advocate through her employment at the Sojourner House, Providence, Rhode Island.

Since the implementation of VAWA, the Department of Attorney General has also established and maintains the statewide Restraining Order/No Contact Order Registry (RONCO), a database of all domestic violence protective orders, which is accessible to law enforcement personnel twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The Office has collected and maintains a resource library which includes training videos for prosecutors and the Unit continues to develop and has become a valuable resource to law enforcement, city and town solicitors, domestic violence advocates, victims and the community.

To address the training needs for prosecutors, the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Unit, in conjunction with a multidisciplinary task force has conducted four separate highly successful and well attended statewide trainings for city and town solicitors and prosecutors and police prosecutors, the most recent in April of 2001. A solicitor/prosecution protocol and resource manual were developed and distributed by the Attorney General.

Additionally, the Unit participates on all VAWA Committees, assists in VAWA law enforcement trainings, conducts hospital trainings on domestic violence and the use of Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits, conducts independent law enforcement trainings at the request of police departments, and speaks at educational institutions and other community forums to address the topics of domestic violence and sexual assault including prevention and the criminal justice system.

Recently, this Office, through the Attorney General's Domestic Violence Task Force Subcommittee on Juveniles, co-sponsored an educational forum on children who witness violence, The Forgotten Victims: Children Exposed to Domestic Violence. This Office has

also drafted, introduced, and testified on important legislation affecting the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault and its victims.

Goal:

To maintain the consistency with which domestic violence and sexual assault cases are handled and prosecuted within the Department of the Attorney General and in our cities and towns through the city solicitors, and to focus on multidisciplinary intervention in families where children witness violence to assure the safety of all and to provide resources to the children in these families in the areas of counseling and education so that these children might break the cycle of violence.

Objectives:

- To restructure the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Unit through a pilot program developed by the Unit and monitored by The Victim Services Team to better serve the children of our State who witness domestic violence.
- To continue to work with the Attorney General's Domestic Violence Task Force Subcommittee on Juveniles to implement the Community Partnership Initiative, a partnership with the City of East Providence Police Department and Bradley Hospital to provide crisis intervention by trained social workers and counselors twenty four hours a day/ 7 days a week to children who witness an incident of violence.
- To work to develop a SART Response Team (Sexual Assault Response Team) within the State of Rhode Island, modeled after the Children's Advocacy Center, to work with a multidisciplinary task force and discuss prosecution, medical treatment and services for victims of sexual assault.
- To implement incentive/award programs for our police officers that have demonstrated an excellence in law enforcement as it relates to the area of domestic violence.
- To continue to conduct trainings for prosecutors, police and city and town solicitors on effective and consistent prosecution of domestic violence and sexual assault cases, and to provide updated information as required.
- To continue to educate law enforcement, victim services providers, the judiciary and the community on the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- To participate in educational opportunities for Unit prosecutors to keep abreast of the caselaw, statutes, programs and studies relative to the areas of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- To continue the vertical prosecution of capital and felony cases, which has resulted in improved cooperation and participation in the prosecution by victims of domestic violence and utilization of services by those victims.

- To continue the prosecution of high profile domestic violence cases.
- To continue to enhance victim services to victims of domestic violence at the Superior Court level through the assistance of the Attorney General's Victim Services Team.
- To continue to research domestic violence laws and studies to provide input on sexual assault and domestic violence legislation introduced in the Rhode Island General Assembly.
- To continue to prosecute cases without the cooperation and testimony of the victim.

Methods:

To achieve the goals and objectives set forth above, the Department of the Attorney General DV/SA Unit will continue to work with the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence and its six member agencies, the Sexual Assault and Trauma Resource Center, the VAWA Law Enforcement Committee, the VAWA Planning Committee, and the VAWA Curriculum Committee, on training and standards in the areas of law enforcement and advocacy education, stalking, teen dating violence, updating on law and policy, improved collection of corroborative evidence, building a strong case without the victim's cooperation, protective orders, and focusing on children who witness violence.

In addition to the collaborative effort of these well established groups working in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault, the DV/SA Unit will work with new partners including Bradley Hospital and the East Providence Police on the establishment of the Community Partnership Initiative (CPI) to provide immediate crisis assistance to children witnessing a domestic violence incident in their home.

Internally, the Unit seeks to focus on expedient prosecution where a child witnesses domestic violence and commits to encourage services for those children experiencing such a violent incident. Each child and family that takes advantage of the services will be monitored for improvement in school, reoccurrence of domestic violence incidents, compliance with counseling, and the child's ability to remain out of the family court system as a juvenile offender.

Finally, the Unit will continue to remain active in working with the Legislature and the Attorney General's Task Force on Domestic Violence to ensure that Rhode Island laws protect victims and hold offenders accountable through the power of the criminal justice system.

Staff Support:

The Unit is currently staffed with three full-time prosecutors (the addition of the third prosecutor came in 1999). Each prosecutor has experience in and has received formal and specialized training in the prosecution of domestic violence and sexual assault cases. Each of these prosecutors handles an average of 80 cases. These cases include repeat domestic violence offenses and special issues victims including the mentally challenged, elderly, and

disabled victims.

The year 2002, is the fifth year that the Unit has had a victim-witness prosecution liaison. The purpose of this position is to establish an early and long lasting connection with the victim of domestic violence or sexual assault. In addition to advocating for services, providing information regarding victim safety and the process, and addressing the questions of victims of domestic violence, the liaison will often accompany a victim to court, assist in the interview of the victim and assist with general trial preparation. This crucial position encourages a team approach within the Unit to the prosecution of domestic violence and sexual assault cases and ultimately this liaison helps the prosecutor to build a stronger case. The present victim-witness prosecution liaison is bilingual and able to give assistance with services to victims both in English and Spanish.

There is also a full time paralegal devoted to the Unit. She too provides critical support services and case coordination for the Unit, often stepping into the role of the victim-witness prosecution liaison when necessary.

The immediate focus of the entire Unit is to develop a pilot program within the Department to better identify and provide services to child witnesses to domestic violence. The trauma inflicted upon children who witness violence has been a focus of the administration since 1999 and the commitment to these child victims is evident in the focus of the educational forum co-sponsored by the Department in May 2000 and is evident in the Department's Solicitor/Prosecutor protocol. In response to this priority set by the Attorney General, the Unit has developed a pilot program to focus on the child witnesses to domestic violence identified in one geographic area and is exploring a variety of service options including counseling and education assistance for the child through a compact with an area college. A subcommittee to address the program has been identified. It is expected that this pilot project will begin in late October of 2001.

Children Who Witness of Domestic Violence Program

On December 4, 2001, Attorney General Sheldon Whitehouse launched a pilot program to assist the "forgotten victims" of domestic violence, children who witness the acts of abuse. The purpose of this program is to focus more heavily on the investigation and prosecution of all domestic violence cases in which a child was present in the household at the time of the incident. The goals are to improve prosecution and decrease the rate of recidivism.

In our effort to meet those goals, the Department of Attorney General has received the commitment of participation from the North Providence Police Department and the Elizabeth Buffum Chase House. In the Town of North Providence, police made 148 arrests in the year 2000 for domestic violence incidents. Of those cases, 125 were misdemeanors and 23 were felonies. In 56 cases children were present at the location of the domestic violence and in 46 of those cases, children either saw or heard the incident.

The Elizabeth Buffum Chase House – a member agency of the Coalition Against Domestic Violence – brings to this collaboration a wealth of experience, knowledge and therapeutic resources to ensure that the victims and their children get the help and support they need.

A tracking system has been designed by the Department which details the number of cases received by the Police Department, the number of felonies vs. misdemeanors, disposition of the cases and whether or not the non-abusive parent expressed interest in getting their child involved with the available victim services. Additionally, this tracking system details the number of victims and their children who have followed-up with the services that they have been referred to.

Since December 4, 2001, 15 cases have been referred to the Attorney General's Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Unit. Of these 15 cases, 2 were charged by the police department as felonies. There are 9 cases that are currently pending and are scheduled for further pre-trial conference or trial in the near future. Of the disposed cases, 2 were dismissed due to lack of victim cooperation and the fact that there was no independent evidence to prove those cases beyond a reasonable doubt. Furthermore, 4 families who had been referred for services have taken advantage of said services and are continuing at this time.

While the program is quite successful, the Department has assigned one prosecutor from the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Unit to handle the cases in which children are witnesses to domestic violence. Approximately 15 hours per week is spent in the prosecution and maintenance of the tracking system. The assigned prosecutor also handles her regular caseload prosecuting felony cases in the Superior Court. The program is funded solely by the Department of Attorney General.

Prosecution Plan: Timeline

Date	Task	Responsible
10/2001	Pilot Program- DV/SA Unit Concentrating on Child witnesses to Domestic Violence	DV/SA Unit, AG/DV Taskforce Subcommittee
10/17/01	Awards Ceremony, Rep. Barbara C. Burlingame Memorial Award Excellence in Law Enforcement Domestic Violence	Attorney General DV/SA Unit
Fall 2001	Complete and approve uniform Domestic Violence No Contact Orders for District and Superior Courts	DV/SA Unit, Magistrate Revens, AG/RONCO Subcommittee
2002	SART - Establish a Sexual Assault Response Team	DV/SA Unit SATRC, Multidisciplinary Workgroup
TBD	Successful Start-up of the East Providence based Community Partnership Initiative (pending grant Approval)	DV/SA Unit, AG/DV Taskforce, Bradley Hospital, East Providence P.D.
TBD	Participate in VAWA Law Enforcement training four hour mandatory law enforcement training for the City of Providence- last city in the State to complete the required training	DV/SA Unit, VAWA Planning, VAWA Curriculum, VAWA Law Enforcement
TBD	Follow-up training on Domestic Violence laws, RONCO etc., for police personnel, advocates, upon request	DV/SA Unit VAWA Curriculum
1/2001	Distribution of manual and training on issue of primary aggressor	DV/SA Unit
TBD	Continue to participate in Sexual Assault Evidence Collection training for Police officers, supervisors, and hospitals	DV/SA Unit Dept. of Health
Ongoing	Monitor and improve the RONCO System Working toward NCIC compliance	DV/SA Unit, AG BCI Unit,

AG RONCO
Subcommittee

Ongoing	Prosecution of all Providence County Felony cases, high profile and other misdemeanor cases	DV/SA Unit
Ongoing	Participate in all VAWA committees, AG Taskforce Subcommittees	DV/SA Unit

PROSECUTION BUDGET

Personnel:

Funds are allocated for two staff attorneys/prosecutors who are assigned as a project director and a second staff attorney/prosecutor. (Third prosecutor is currently funded in part with GTEAP funds). Personnel funds are also allocated for a paralegal and victim-witness liaison. State matching funds are used to cover the balance of personnel costs not fully funded with federal dollars and to cover the costs for the salary and benefits of the classification clerk responsible for RONCO entries and updates.

Federal.....	\$229,425
State Match.....	\$82,776

TOTAL

PROSECUTION.....	\$312,201
FEDERAL SHARE.....	\$229,425
STATEMATCH.....	\$82,776

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Current System:

Law enforcement officials throughout Rhode Island believe that the training of police officers is an important step in any plan that deals with the issue of violence against women. In 1988, with the passage of the comprehensive Domestic Violence Prevention Act, all police officers in the state were required to receive eight hours of recruit academy training plus four hours of in-service training in the area of domestic violence. This provision allowed for a one-time training session and dealt with the issue of domestic violence, but not sexual assault. There have been significant changes to the laws in Rhode Island since then, and the need for greater understanding about the dynamics of violence against women was apparent.

Compliance with the training provision of the 1988 Domestic Violence Prevention Act created financial burdens on cities and towns throughout Rhode Island. This is due to the fact that police agencies are covered by collective bargaining agreements which require that officers receive overtime pay for instances of "call back to duty." Because these contracts also contain "minimum manning" clauses, departments are required to "call back" a second officer to fill a vacated slot in the event the first officer is assigned to a training. Therefore, departments would be required to hold multiple training sessions, and it would be almost impossible for every police officer to be present for training at the same time.

Due to these difficulties—both financial and logistical—some departments established in-service training programs, some did brief role call training, while others had no training at all. The need for consistent, statewide education was clearly identified during the first year of planning for the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act. In February, 2002, another three-day training was held for those interested in becoming department trainers. A second round of training for every police department in the state is underway. We recently held an Annual Trainers Review in which all of the trainers that have gone through the three-day session were invited to a one-day refresher course.

Goal:

Improve law enforcement response in domestic violence and sexual assault cases.

Objectives:

- Continue the statewide multi-disciplinary Law Enforcement Training Task Force to monitor and evaluate the implementation of statewide law enforcement initiatives for domestic violence and sexual assault
- Continue monthly meetings of the multi-disciplinary Curriculum Committee to develop, conduct, and evaluate VAWA law enforcement trainings
- Continue to train officers throughout the state, using the expertise and resources

of the police trainers who completed the STOP-VAWA instructor preparation workshops

- Ensure compliance and consistency in utilizing the DV/SA law enforcement reporting form in domestic violence and sexual assault cases through quarterly monitoring
- Conduct timely analysis of the DV/SA data and ensure that information from the data collection is distributed to interested stakeholders.
- Continue Law Enforcement Advocate Team to provide information, follow-up, and advocacy for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault

Methods:

The VAWA Planning Committee created a statewide Law Enforcement Training Task Force in year one to oversee the development of a curriculum and coordinate a new training program for law enforcement officers. This task force is comprised of representatives from law enforcement, prosecution, the judiciary, domestic violence and sexual assault victim service providers, the state administrative agency, and the state's police academies: Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy, which is governed by the Police Officer's Commission on Standards and Training and the State Police Academy. The chair of the Task Force is Chief Michael Chalek of the Cranston, RI Police Department, who is the representative of the RI Police Chiefs' Association.

The Task Force also spun off an ancillary group, the Curriculum Committee, which has the responsibility of writing the law enforcement training manuals, handbooks, conducting and evaluating trainings. The committee is chaired by Chief Anthony Silva of the Cumberland Police Department and is comprised of representatives from law enforcement (including two of the police academies), victim services, prosecution, and the state administrative agency.

As the Task Force and Curriculum Committee developed both the instructor preparation workshop and 4-hour trainings, the various needs of the diverse departments throughout the state were considered. The trainings include such topics as:

- The dynamics of domestic violence and sexual assault
- Updates on federal and state laws regarding violence against women
- Strategies regarding the reduction of dual arrest in domestic violence cases
- Evidence collection in sexual assault and domestic violence cases
- Community resources for victims
- Mandatory arrest issues
- Reporting requirements and data collection
- Protective orders
- Interviewing techniques

Instructor preparation workshops have been held throughout the state with the most recent one in February, 2002. Each program included three full-day sessions, and a comprehensive manual for each trainer to take back to his/her department. The most recent session was conducted mostly in Power Point. After the completion of each

program, the Curriculum Committee and Law Enforcement Training Task Force reconvened to evaluate the training and make adjustments for the upcoming cycle. Each training session is conducted by a team of twelve (12) trainers, selected by the Task Force, and representing several fields, including prosecution, law enforcement, and advocate perspectives.

A revised manual was developed for participants including training resources to use when the 4-hour departmental trainings are held. In addition, video and audio equipment and other resources will be available from the shelter agencies, the SATRC and the RI Justice Commission as needed. The Curriculum Committee also developed pocket manuals to distribute to each police officer in the state at the trainings. Each police department has the flexibility to perform trainings based upon scheduling requirements, trainers' schedules, or officers overtime costs. The RI Justice Commission oversees scheduling and budgeting, and the police department will contribute 25% matching funds to comply with the grant requirements.

FY-2000 VAWA funding supports the positions for four Law Enforcement Victim Advocates. A Request for Proposal (RFP) process was utilized to determine which areas of the state would benefit most. The advocates work to strengthen the police department's connection to the victim service agency by linking the victim to the agencies' programs. The departments that were chosen to receive an advocate are pleased with the necessary link these individuals bring to the department and the community. These positions will continue with FY-01 and FY-02 funds.

Evaluation:

One of the key issues identified during the initial planning process for the Violence Against Women Act was the level of inconsistency in the data being collected by police departments about crimes of violence against women. A centralized form was developed in 1988 by the Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit for use in domestic violence crimes (DV-1 Form), but its use by police departments was inconsistent. The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence currently tracks all domestic violence cases in the system, and the SATRC compiles statistics on sexual assault cases.

During the first year of funding, the VAWA Planning Committee developed a new police reporting form to replace the DV form. The new DV/SA form was revised to include sexual assault crimes, including child molestation, and was introduced to all police departments during VAWA law enforcement training programs.

In addition, the Curriculum Committee developed pre- and post-test instruments to measure the level of information and attitudinal change in conjunction with the training sessions. This data is reviewed monthly by the Curriculum Committee. The curriculum will be modified as needed on the basis of the information gleaned through this process. Data from the first training program, which was held in March, 1996 indicated an increased average knowledge base from a score on pre-test of 51 to a post-test average of 78, with 22 police officers completing the program.

Evaluations of the 4-hour police trainings held during the past five years have shown consistently high scores and an overwhelmingly positive response and to the training.

The Law Enforcement Training Task Force will continue to meet on a quarterly basis, to review this data, evaluate progress toward achieving goals, and develop strategies to ensure effective implementation of the goals and objectives for future years' programming.

Law Enforcement Plan: Timeline

Date	Task	Responsible
2002		
July-ongoing	Conduct 4-hour initial and advanced trainings	Curriculum
July-ongoing	Monthly meetings of Curriculum Committee	Curriculum
July	LETTF meets, review DV/SA data from January, February, March, April 2002; evaluate progress of training	LETTF
September	LETTF meets, evaluates training	LETTF
December	LETTF meets, review DV/SA data from May, June, July, August 2002; evaluate progress of training, plan FY-03 law enforcement program	LETTF
Quarterly	Statewide Coordinating Council meets	Statewide Council

Date	Task	Responsible
2003		
January	LETTF meets, evaluate progress of training	LETTF
April	LETTF meets, review DV/SA data from September, October, November, December 2002, evaluate progress of training	LETTF
Spring	Meet with Police Chiefs' Association to present law enforcement programs-FY-03	LETTF
March	LETTF meets; 6-month review of Police-Advocate Response Teams; review DV/SA data, evaluate progress of trainings	LETTF
June	LETTF meets, review DV/SA data, evaluate progress of training	LETTF

Law Enforcement Budget

Personnel/Officer Overtime:

This item includes the overtime costs for law enforcement officers to attend supervisors' trainings. The RI Justice Commission will oversee the distribution of the funds per department, as each department will be able to use the funds as best meets their scheduling needs, for overtime expenses, trainers' salaries, etc. Salaries will be reimbursed to cover the cost to "backfill" the position, for overtime, or to reimburse the municipality for the cost of "straight time" not to exceed an average of \$100 per officer.

RIJC Administered (Match required):

Officer Overtime	\$65,085
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SUBTOTAL	\$65,085
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MATCH AMT.	\$16,271
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Consultants:

This item is for consultants from the victim service agencies to assist police trainers in the supervisors' training. Consultants will participate at a rate of \$50 per hour for 40 hours (Total: \$2,000). Additionally, consultants will be utilized for the Law Enforcement Advocates at an annual salary of \$33,821 plus 20% benefits (\$6,764), for a total of \$40,585/consultant x 4, for a grand total of \$162,340.

Travel:

This item is for mileage allowance for the Law Enforcement Advocates for travel to trainings, meetings, etc. at a flat rate of \$500 each for four consultants, for a total of \$2,000.

Private Non-Profit Administered (No match required)

Consultant Fees	\$ 162,340
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Travel	\$ 2,000
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SUBTOTAL	\$ 164,340
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TOTAL FEDERAL	\$229,425
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TOTAL LOCAL SHARE	\$16,271
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TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT	\$245,696
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VICTIM SERVICES

Current System:

During the past seven years, with implementation of prior Violence Against Women Act grants, Rhode Island victim services providers have participated in developing a statewide collaborative partnership, designed to better meet the needs of victims of violence against women. One of the most exciting accomplishments has been establishment of the Network to End Domestic

Violence and Sexual Assault, a collaboration including the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center (formerly the RI Rape Crisis Center), the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and all six of the battered women's shelter agencies. During the past year, groundwork has been laid, and a strong foundation has been built, to ensure that future program development will progress in a coordinated, holistic manner designed to meet the needs of victims in the most efficient, responsive way possible.

The initial goals of the Network were to develop and implement advocacy programs for victims and survivors of both domestic violence and sexual assault, specifically through a statewide toll-free Helpline, and through services for underserved populations. These projects are designed to work collaboratively with law enforcement, prosecution, and the health care community to provide coordinated support for victims.

During the past three years of the VAWA grant cycle, the Network successfully trained over 450 volunteer advocates and staff to respond to both domestic violence and sexual assault. In addition, the statewide Helpline was officially launched on July 1, 1997 and has already provided services to over 12,000 callers.

The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence was incorporated in 1979 to assist and support Rhode Island's six shelters for battered women in statewide planning and development. The Coalition and its member agencies have been providing services to victims of domestic violence for the last twenty years, consistently expanding services in an attempt to provide the comprehensive support battered women need. The Coalition has an active Task Force called SOAR (Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships) which is involved in many aspects of the VAWA funded activities.

The Coalition serves as a resource for its member agencies, providing trainings, technical assistance, statewide planning and needs assessment, and gathering and disseminating resources and information. The Coalition's member organizations and the areas they cover are:

- Sojourner House (Northern Rhode Island and Greater Providence)
- Women's Center of Rhode Island (Greater Providence)
- Elizabeth Buffum Chace House (Kent County)
 - Women's Resource Center of South County (Washington County)
 - Women's Resource Center of Newport and Bristol Counties (Newport and Bristol Counties)
 - The Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center (Blackstone Valley)

These agencies provide high-quality emergency and support services to over 10,000 battered women and their children each year, including emergency shelter, twenty-four hotline coverage, support groups, children's programs, court advocacy, public education, and counseling. Together, these agencies form a comprehensive network of services to meet the diverse needs of victims of domestic violence.

The Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center is the sole agency in the state organized specifically to deal with the issue of sexual assault as a community concern. The

Center's purpose is to provide advocacy and counseling to victims of sexual assault and their families through both crisis intervention and follow-up services, and to educate the community so that the incidence of rape will decrease.

The Center was established in 1973 by a group of women concerned with the increasing problem of sexual assault and the lack of services and information available to victims and the public. Services provided by the Center include: a 24-hour statewide hotline, professional counseling, consultations, trainings, crisis intervention and advocacy for victims and their families, prevention education and training programs. In late 1992 the Center launched a collaborative effort, "Building Bridges: A Partnership Against Violence" which provides on-site counseling and psycho-educational services to victims of domestic violence who are also victims of childhood sexual abuse. In 1993, the Center established the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) a joint effort with five of the state's police departments, the Department of the Attorney General, the Dept. for Children, Youth and Families, medical personnel and mental health professionals. The CAC serves as a facility where children who are victims of sexual assault, and their non-offending family members can come for the purpose of evaluation, evidence gathering and counseling.

Overall Goal:

The overall goal for the VAWA 2002 Victim Services proposal follows the original overarching goal established in planning for the implementation of the 1995 VAWA plan:

To enhance ongoing collaborative advocacy efforts with victims of domestic violence and sexual assault specifically to meet the needs of underserved populations.

Objectives:

- To address the priority unmet needs of sexual assault and domestic violence victims across the state
- To strengthen and develop a statewide collaborative approach to advocacy and outreach for victims
- To develop and implement a comprehensive training and certification program for advocates
- To develop protocols and policies which will result in coordinated advocacy efforts on a statewide basis for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault

Methods:

The Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center and the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence will continue to build on their extensive histories of providing expert

advocacy to victims of abuse to develop a comprehensive approach to meeting the unmet needs in the community. This important collaborative effort will integrate the skills and specialties of both domestic violence and sexual assault prevention and treatment professionals to eliminate duplication of services and encourage opportunities for cross-training. The Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center and the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence (and its member agencies) have the proven capacity to utilize well-trained volunteers to enhance victim services. This will ensure that the VAWA funds are used in the most cost effective way possible, while meeting the critical needs of victims of domestic and sexual violence.

The programs that have been initiated during prior VAWA grant cycles address some of the unmet needs of victims in the community, and will be able to continue to develop with the 2002 funds. These programs include the following services, which were designed to address each region's most pressing needs for victim services:

- Latina Advocacy Program in the Blackstone Valley Region
- Outreach Services, targeting the elderly and teens, and community collaborative activities in Warwick
- Lesbian Battering Support Program
- Outreach Services to teens in Northern Rhode Island
- Program for children who witness, and outreach activities/support services in Bristol/Newport
- Multicultural Advocacy Program in the Greater Providence area
- support services for lesbian victims, and other support services for “friends and families/significant others” in South County
- clinical counseling services for sexual abuse survivors who could not otherwise afford counseling

The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center will continue to build on the groundwork of collaborative advocacy planning that was established during the prior years of VAWA funding.

The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence will use 2002 VAWA funds to continue to coordinate this advocacy effort, including the training and certification of volunteer advocates, and a statewide Helpline for all victims of violence. Staff from the Coalition, the Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center and the SATRC have been involved in planning for the enhanced training efforts throughout the state which will ensure that advocates are highly trained and qualified to respond to victims of both domestic violence and sexual assault. This innovative plan will allow advocates to address the needs of victims in a holistic way, and agencies to combine resources and eliminate duplication in advocacy programs. Training for advocates will include topics such as: sexual assault and the law, safety planning, multi-cultural issues, the relationship between violence against women and substance abuse, and the effects of domestic violence on children.

As the efforts of law enforcement and prosecution departments in the area of violence against women expand, we expect to see an increase in the demand for victim services. Our advocacy efforts will complement those of law enforcement and prosecution, creating a comprehensive community-wide approach to ending violence against women. This coordinated approach will not only better meet the immediate need for expanded victim advocacy in the police departments and in the courts, but it will sow the seeds for future advocacy and prevention programs within

hospital emergency departments, child protection programs, and schools throughout the state. In addition, the diverse needs of various segments of the population will be addressed, building on the existing outreach efforts of victim service agencies, such as a collaboration between a battered women's shelter and the Narragansett Indian Tribe.

Evaluation:

The three major issues facing domestic violence and sexual abuse victims are: 1) isolation -- the feeling that they are different from others, 2) self-blame and shame, and 3) interpersonal difficulties arising from domestic violence or sexual abuse. Victims of domestic violence must deal with the additional, more immediate issues of safety, shelter, and security. Battered women and sexual abuse survivors often suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a term given to a group of psychological symptoms often observed after a woman has repeatedly experienced physical, sexual, and/or serious psychological abuse. While PTSD is similar to rape trauma syndrome, it also has its own specific symptom patterns which must be treated.

Four major areas that have been negatively impacted by the battered woman's coping skills include: manipulation (of the environment as a way to keep things calm in an effort to avoid violence); dissociation (a mild form of self-hypnosis which keeps victims from experiencing the intensity of pain); intimacy (many battered women confuse emotional and sexual intimacy, especially if the woman was also sexually abused as a child); and compliance (the victim learns to please the abuser so as to minimize the frequency and severity of the abuse).

Taking these issues into consideration, specific outcomes of victim intervention and counseling programs include the following goals:

- to increase safety
- to decrease isolation
- to improve interpersonal skills
- to decrease learned helplessness
- to increase assertiveness
- to improve self-esteem
- to help the victim take control of her life

Ultimately, we expect to see a reduction in the number of women who are so often revictimized.

The successful achievement of program results will be verified with pre and post self-evaluations, as well as assessments by a therapist. For some of the clinical programs, a questionnaire/ evaluation is given to each client at the end of the program will measure whether or not the goals have been met.

It is important to note that completion of a counseling program in itself is considered a measure of success for many clients. It means that they have gotten through the critical phases of disclosure of abuse. We have seen that through this process, many victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse feel empowered to regain control of their lives, make their own decisions, and deal effectively with the trauma they are facing in their lives.

Each individual agency is responsible for conducting program evaluation for their individualized client service programs. On a statewide basis, the Network is overseeing implementation of the 24-hour Helpline project. In addition, all six member agencies of the Coalition are participating in an Outcome Measures Committee, established and coordinated through the United Way of Southeastern New England. This committee is working to establish statewide, common outcome measures for some of the core services provided to victims of domestic violence.

The members of the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center have strong track records in conducting program evaluation for training and educational programs, as well as measuring outcomes for intervention programs. Pre-test and post-test results from the Violence Prevention Program, for example, assess each participant's gains in knowledge resulting from educational programs by administering a series of ten questions. A different set of questions is used for clients participating in educational advocacy programs. The results from these surveys are compiled to assess progress in the following areas: increased self-esteem, increased knowledge about domestic abuse, awareness of community resources and options for victims, and the likelihood of returning to an abusive situation.

VICTIM SERVICES PLAN: TIMELINE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Task</u>	<u>Responsible</u>
July 2002 - June 2003	Operate statewide Helpline RICADV/SATRC	
September 2002 - June 2003	Conduct certification training sessions RICADV/SATRC (three sessions per year)	

July 2002-June 2003	Evaluate data collection needs for improved statewide data collection/implement statewide computer networking for enhanced communication	The Network
July 02- June 03 ongoing	Implement improvements and expansion to new programs started in Years 1-5 for underserved populations (Latina program, lesbian services, rural outreach, new support groups, hospital advocacy, and multicultural advocacy programs)	The Network member agencies
July 02- June 03 ongoing	Regular meetings of the Network Steering Committee; evaluation of progress to date	The Network Exec.Directors
July 02- June 03 ongoing	Regular meetings of the Network Helpline Oversight Committee; evaluation of progress	The Network Helpline
July 02- June 03	Program evaluation for direct victims services	Each member ongoing

Victim Services Budget

Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence:

TOTAL VICTIM SERVICES via RICADV & SATRC \$412,965

TOTAL VICTIM SERVICES via SATRC \$94,982

TOTAL VICTIM SERVICES via RICADV \$317,983

(of this total, \$268,427 will be passed through the Coalition to the member agencies; \$49,556 will remain at the Coalition)

The following information pertains to the breakdown of the \$317,983 subcontracted through the RICADV:

Personnel:

The personnel/salaries include a portion of the Executive Director of the Coalition's salary and benefits. This position is critical for ensuring that the statewide coordination of the *Network* projects continue during the coming year. **\$25,000**

Organizational Consultants /Contracts:

The organizational consultants will be:

Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center	\$46,008
Elizabeth Buffum Chace House	\$46,975
Sojourner House	\$42,599
Women's Center of RI	\$35,647
Women's Resource Center (S.C.)	\$43,324
Women's Resource Center (Newport)	\$38,036
Blackstone (Helpline)	\$15,838

Total.....\$268,427

Travel:

This line item will be used to reimburse Coalition staff for travel to statewide meetings in various parts of the state, to assist in *Network* activities, at a rate of \$0.30 per mile..... \$556

Supplies/Operating Expenses:

These costs include the training materials and site costs associated with the statewide training programs, Domestic Violence awareness month activities, office supplies, and a portion of the rent/utilities for the Coalition office.....\$24,000

TOTAL VICTIM SERVICES via RICADV:.....\$317,983

Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center**Personnel:**

Counselor/Therapist	salary @ \$31,250 x .50	\$15,625
Counselor/Therapist	salary @ \$35,000 x .50	\$17,500
Director of Program Services	salary @ \$69,680 x .10	\$6,968
SART/Advocacy Coordinators	salary @ \$30,160 x .20	\$6,032
Advocate Coordinator	salary @ \$28,392 x .45	\$12,776
Administrative Support	.20 x personnel costs	\$11,780
Fringe Benefits	.20 x personnel costs	\$14,136

Total Personnel Cost.....\$84,817

Mileage Reimbursement:

This line item will be used to reimburse staff for in-state travel to attend training meetings and other program related activities.....\$1,000

Printing:

These funds will be used for printing and copying materials for the advocates, client services and for the Helpline. Training manuals and reproductions of handouts are included in these costs.....\$3,000

Materials:

These funds will be used to purchase videos, books, journal subscriptions, and other items to be used in curriculum development and training.....\$3,165

Advertising/Postage:

This represents the cost of advertising for staff positions, and postage associated with mailings to all the advocates and related staff at participating agencies.....\$3,000

TOTAL VICTIM SERVICES via SATRC:.....\$94,982

TOTAL VICTIM SERVICES.....\$412,965
TOTAL FEDERAL SHARE.....\$412,965
LOCAL/STATE SHARE.....\$0

Data Collection: An Overview of Rhode Island's Data Collection and Analysis:

For over 30 years, the State of Rhode Island has been active in the collection of criminal justice data. The early "pioneers" were the Rhode Island State Police (Uniform Crime Reporting Center), the Department of Corrections, and the Rhode Island Justice Commission. In addition, the courts and the Department of the Attorney General have developed data/information programs such as PROMIS (prosecution), RICRIS (RI Criminal Information System), JISRA (juvenile justice), CYCIS (children and youth), etc. The Supreme Court is currently developing and working towards implementing the statewide *Justice Link* (J-LINK) system which will tie together the Rhode Island criminal justice system.

Additionally, for the past 20 years, data analysis has been performed by the Rhode Island Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center in the areas of domestic violence, rape, and other criminal justice issues.

The Rhode Island Supreme Court's Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit began collecting domestic violence data on the original DV-1 form from Rhode Island Police Departments in 1989. An initial database system was created in 1995. While it produced numbers, it was very limited in any kind of relational query aspect. In 1996, an ACCESS programmer built the database used for 1997 and 1998 DV/SA forms. From that experience, the database was redesigned considerably for 1999 DV/SA forms. The new database is capable of sophisticated queries and reporting.

With the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act, Rhode Island has begun to further address the collection and analysis of domestic violence and sexual assault data. The Supreme Court DVU, the DV/SA Unit at the RI Department of the Attorney General, and the state's eight victim services agencies have all implemented and/or enhanced data collection systems. Both the Supreme Court DVU and the Attorney General's office have enhanced its data collection systems through VAWA formula grant funds. The state's eight victim service agencies have completely overhauled and significantly increased its data collection and communications abilities through VAWA's Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies. It is anticipated that the data analysis and collection will become more critical as the number of reports of sexual assault and domestic violence increase, and the data collected becomes more specific.

COURT FUNDS

RI Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit

Current System:

In Rhode Island, there are three primary collectors of data and information related to sexual assault and domestic violence. They are: The Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit (DVU) of the RI Supreme Court in conjunction with the Department of Health's Violence Against Women Prevention Project, the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center; and the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

The Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit:

The DVU has been in existence since 1979. Its main focus, since the passage of the 1988 Domestic Violence Prevention Act has been the state's criminal justice system. It has been, and remains, the Unit's mission to work toward the improvement of the Rhode Island criminal justice system's response to victims of domestic violence.

In July, 1988, the Domestic Violence Prevention Act was passed into Rhode Island General Law. It mandated, among other things, that law enforcement officers complete a Police Reporting Form when responding to a domestic violence incident, regardless if an arrest was made or not. The Police Reporting Form (then known as the DV-1 form and subsequently the DV/SA Police Reporting Form) was devised, printed, distributed to, and collected from, all Rhode Island law enforcement by the Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit. With its latest revision in 1999, the DV/SA Police Reporting Form contains 14 sections vital to comprehensive domestic violence and sexual assault data collection and report compilation. These sections include information on incident, victim, victim body map, suspect, child(ren), witness(es), court protective orders (RI and foreign), demographics, and a description of the law enforcement response. A copy of the most recent form (1999 revision) is included with the Plan.

The DV/SA Police Reporting Forms are completed by the responding and investigating police officers. They are sent directly to the Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit for screening, scanning and data entry into the DV/SA database. Comprehensive reports are currently being produced from the 1999 and 2000 data.

Funds were set aside in FY-96 for the data entry and analysis of DV/SA forms. In that same year, the Unit began collecting data on sexual assault. Over 5,000 DV/SA forms were entered that year. The majority of entries were domestic violence related. There were only a handful of DV/SA forms for sexual assault cases in CY-96. The DV/SA form was revised in 1996 from a straight text-entry form to a part scannable/part text-entry form. The revision included data on both domestic violence and sexual assault incidents. The revision was accomplished with the help of a VAWA committee made up of state and private non-profit agency representatives.

In 1997, the RI General Assembly mandated the use of the DV/SA form for all sexual assault/child molestation cases when probable cause is present. DV cases, however, do not require probable cause for documentation on the DV/SA form.

In FY-97, approximately 6,546 DV forms and approximately 154 SA forms were entered into the computer database. However, some of those DV numbers represent inappropriate use of the DV/SA form, so that the number of forms is higher than it should be for domestic violence cases. For example, police officers occasionally fill out the form for a child abuse case (victim is a child) or juvenile cases (suspect is a juvenile). Neither of these populations are covered under the 1988 Domestic Violence Prevention Act, unless they are sexual assault/child molestation cases. Numbers for DV forms should be somewhat less than the 6,546 stated above. One of the goals accomplished in CY-98 was the education of police officers on not using the DV/SA forms for populations not covered by the Act. Figures for CY-98 will more accurately reflect the number of DV/SA forms for both domestic violence and sexual assault cases.

As more trainings occur on the use of the newest DV/SA form, more police officers are using the forms for appropriate cases. Final figures for 1998 are 6,629 forms received for domestic violence calls and cases and 180 forms for sexual assault/child molestation cases.

The total number of 1999 forms entered for domestic violence calls and cases was 7,199. The Unit is still pursuing missing 1999 DV forms. The total number of 1999 forms entered for sexual assault/child molestation cases was 247. The Unit is still pursuing missing 1999 SA/CH forms.

The Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center:

The SATRC maintains data on all of the reports of sexual assault it receives through its various community-based programs, including the 24-hour hotline, hospital advocacy, clinical programs, education programs, and the Children's Advocacy Center. Law enforcement officers complete Uniform Crime Reporting forms in sexual assault cases, as well as the DV/SA form.

Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence:

The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence is the primary source for domestic violence data in our state. Annually, the agency collects accurate, comprehensive civil and criminal data. The Coalition collects and analyzes statistics on the number of domestic violence cases which enter the District and Superior Courts. The Coalition and its six member agencies gather demographic information relative to the victim and the perpetrator and have developed a software program which establishes a centralized database.

A significant enhancement to these agencies' ability to collect and analyze data, increase the ability for cross-agency communication, and provide the capacity to access criminal justice data systems has been through Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies. In first year funding, an integrated computer network among all eight agencies was developed. Hardware was purchased, and *Lotus Notes* was selected for the software. Training is ongoing for all eight agencies. The computer network will provide the ability to more effectively track client information as well as conduct program evaluation.

Goal:

To continue to improve and streamline data collection and analysis efforts to include both domestic violence and sexual assault incidents and utilize the data to target needed training and victim services. The Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit will increase its production of reports to police departments and victim service agencies.

Objectives:

- Continue collecting and entering DV/SA Police Reporting Forms into the DV/SA database through a combination of scanning and text-entry.
- Work closely with the Attorney General's Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prosecutorial Unit to further fine-tune the DV/SA forms for the 2000 revision with prosecution of DV and SA/CH cases in mind.
- The Unit began using J - Link in FY-2000 to track all DV and SA/CH cases as they are arraigned each morning. The Unit will also be able to track the disposition of cases as they make their way through the system. The Unit is already tied into the Banner end of J- Link, giving warrant and case information for follow-up work on DV/SA Police Reporting Forms. This has decreased the amount of time and effort it takes to try to obtain missing information from police departments and RISP.

- Continue training law enforcement officers on the use of the new DV/SA form. The Unit would like to intensify the training of the RI police departments and the State Police on the use of the form for responding officers/troopers and administrators.
- Increase the training effort to include city/town solicitors and police prosecution in the laws and policies surrounding domestic violence and sexual assault/child molestation cases. These trainings need to be small, in order to keep up with the changes in local government appointments and police department transfers and promotions.
- Continue to streamline the DV/SA database for queries and reports. The DVU plans to provide monthly reports to police departments, four month reports to victim service agencies and the police departments, and yearly reports to victim service agencies, police departments and the Governor's Office. The four month reports are no longer done on a time-line in conjunction with the four month domestic violence and sexual assault printouts produced by Supreme Court RICRIS data system. These printouts are no longer available from RICRIS.

Methods:

The current revision of the DV/SA form (CY-01) includes comprehensive information on both domestic violence and sexual assault cases. The DVU will continue to work closely with the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center to fine-tune the sexual assault information on the DV/SA form.

Obscan Scanner and Scan Tools Software has been provided by the Department of Health's Violence Against Women Project (statewide surveillance to support current hardware to enter the new DV/SA form into the database).

Software alternatives were explored in FY-99. It was decided that the DVU would keep ScanTools software. The Supreme Court has assumed the expenses for OBSCAN and ScanTools, expenses formerly assumed by the Department of Health.

The DVU will increase efforts to cross reference the DV/SA forms with daily Oracle data from the four District Courts. Time will be spent with each courthouse, checking "missing" cases to be sure they are domestic violence or sexual assault.

Law enforcement training under VAWA will continue with FY-02 funding. A portion of this training is always devoted to the use of the DV/SA form. Additionally, law enforcement sends all felony DV/SA forms to the Department of the Attorney General for use as evidence in prosecution.

Future Collaborative Efforts:

The process of collecting and analyzing data on a statewide basis is being expanded so the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center, the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence and its six member agencies, the RI Department of Health, and the Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit will be able to share appropriate information with the ultimate goal of providing better services to victims.

Evaluation:

The Law Enforcement Training Task Force will continue to review data collected from the DV/SA forms on a quarterly basis. The Violence Against Women Law Enforcement Instructor Preparation Training will continue, as part of the curriculum, training on the use of the DV/SA form and why it is such a valuable tool for law enforcement, prosecution, and victim services. Funds from this grant will continue to support equipment and personnel to enter the DV/SA form into the computer data base, follow up with the state's 39 police departments and State Police to verify information to collect missing forms and support data analysis.

A request for funding from the Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies Program for FY-98 was granted to the DVU for a part-time data manager. The DVU has hired a part-time to full-time person with both ACCESS database experience, some Oracle experience and experience in working in all facets of Microsoft Office as a Systems Manager. The Systems Manager will be responsible for the day to day management and operation of the DV/SA database. In addition, this person will handle the monthly reports, four month reports and yearly reports. The Systems Manager now works approximately 30 hours per week.

Data Collection/Analysis Plan: Timeline

Date	Task	Responsible
2002		

July 1	Produce end of year reports for 2001; LETTF meets to review year report	Supreme Court DV Unit LETTF
July-ongoing	Continue collection, screening and entering of 2002 DV/SA forms	Supreme Court DV Unit
July-ongoing	Continue follow-up on 2001 DV/SA forms	Supreme Court DV Unit
July-ongoing	Continue VAWA trainings, use of the revised '01 version of the forms	Police Dept. Trainers Supreme Court DV Unit Curriculum Committee
July 1	Produce four month report for January February, March, April 2002; LETTF meets to review data	Supreme Court DV Unit LETTF
August-ongoing	Continue collection of CY-01 missing forms	Supreme Court DV Unit
December	Produce DV/SA four month report for May, June, July, August 2002 LETTF meets to review data	Supreme Court DV Unit LETTF
2003		
January	Continue collection, screening and entering of 2001 DV/SA forms; begin collection, screening and entering of 2002 forms.	Supreme Court DV Unit LETTF
April	Produce DV/SA four month report for Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec. 2002	Supreme Court DV Unit LETTF
March	Begin to wind up collection of DV/SA forms for CY-02	Supreme Court DV Unit
July 1	Produce four month report for January, February, March and April 2003	Supreme Court DV Unit

Domestic Violence Training & Monitoring Unit Budget

Organizational Consultants:

Funds are designated for individuals to review data on the DV/SA form, hand enter and scan information into the computer data base, follow-up with police departments as needed, and maintain files. Funds are also designated for individuals to create reports, analyze the data and generate

reports as required.....\$45,885

Match:

Supplies, materials, rent, in-kind, printing provided by the RI Supreme
Court.....\$11,471

TOTAL DATA COLLECTION/ANALYSIS.....\$57,356

FEDERAL SHARE.....\$45,885

STATE SHARE.....\$11,471

MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY OF THE STATE AGENCY TO ADMINISTER THE FUNDS

The Rhode Island Justice Commission:

The Rhode Island Justice Commission (RIJC) was established in 1969 as an agency of the state's Executive Department responsible for planning, statistical analysis and grant administration for the adult and juvenile criminal justice systems in Rhode Island. The agency administers the federal Byrne Memorial Drug Control and Systems Improvement Formula Grant, the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act, the Victims of Crime Act, the National Criminal History Improvement Program, the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, and Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Grant, and the Violence Against Women Act. The agency also has a Statistical Analysis Center, and it administers the state's Neighborhood Crime Prevention Act.

Each year the RIJC plans for and administers nearly \$10 million in 14 separate grant programs represented by approximately 225 subrecipient agency projects. The agency provides program coordination for the Criminal Justice Oversight Committee, which monitors conditions at the secured facilities of the Adult Correctional Institution.

Additionally, the Rhode Island Justice Commission is coordinating the planning and implementation of *Justice Link*, the statewide criminal justice computer network. The RIJC also provides technical assistance to many of Rhode Island's criminal justice and victim service agencies.

The RIJC has the personnel, experience, and resources to manage grants effectively. Accounting, auditing and budgeting are performed for the RIJC under contract/cooperative agreement by the Central Business Office of the RI Department of Administration.

The RIJC is committed to continuing to provide the necessary administrative support to the Violence Against Women Act program, including: progress and financial report review, grant adjustments, processing, reviewing, technical and administrative assistance to subgrantees, funds disbursement, and cost control and fund projections of subgrants.

PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION (5%FEDERAL SHARE).....	\$48,300
STATE/LOCAL SHARE.....	\$0

Section Two:

Letters of Commitment & Support from Program Participants

Section Three:

Appendix

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence:

The following are 1999 program statistics from the six member agencies of the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The following numbers are broken down from that total:

Age Breakdown		Race/Ethnicity	
0-18	13%	Caucasian	67%
19-34	50%	African-American	9%
35-59	35%	Latino	12%
over 59 years	2%	Asian	1%
		Other	3%
		Unknown	8%

Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center:

The following are 1996 program statistics from the Rhode Island Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center. The total number of victims served in 1996 was 11,506. The following numbers are broken down from that total:

Age Breakdown		Race/Ethnicity	
0-4	210	Caucasian	8,583
5-9	1,014	Black	1,221
10-14	1,802	Hispanic	772
15-19	1,922	Asian	283
20-34	3,543	Native American	12
35-54	2,546	Other	27
55-64	368	Unknown	508
65+	35		
Unknown	66		

Note: The SATRC does not currently collect statewide information on language spoken, marital status, or disability.

Statewide Census Data:

This data is derived from 1990 census reported by the RI Department of Administration, Division of Planning. Total population for the State of RI in 1990: 1,003,464.

Age Breakdown	Race/Ethnicity
Male: 481,496	
Female: 521,968	

Under 5	66,969	White	917,375
5-17	158,721	Black	38,861
18-20	54,930	Native American, Eskimo,	
21-24	65,428	or Aleut	4,071
25-44	321,241	Hispanic	45,752
45-54	96,425	Asian	18,325
55-64	89,203	Other	24,832
65-84	134,531		
85-over	16,016		

Sex by marital status:

	Total	Male	Female
Never married	241,135	127,464	113,671
Now married			
except separated	425,953	214,131	211,822
Separated	14,151	5,483	8,668
Widowed	68,956	11,712	57,244
Divorced	63,163	25,145	38,018

Disability of Civilian Noninstitutionalized persons:

	Total
Persons 16 to 64 years:	638,813
With a mobility or self-care limitation	65,671
With a mobility limitation	54,087
With a self care limitation	19,211
With a work disability	54,838
In labor force	23,207
Prevented from working	27,409
Persons 65 years and over:	140,725
With a mobility or self-care limitation	47,196
With a mobility limitation	40,198
With a self-care limitation	16,223

Language Spoken at Home:

Persons 5 years and over	936,423
Speak a language other than English	159,492
Do not speak English "very well"	65,927
Speak Spanish	35,492
Do not speak English "very well"	19,789
Speak Asian or Pacific Island language	12,756
Do not speak English "very well"	7,182